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THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda items 105 and 106

ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOME OF THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

Bahamas, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Singapore, South Africa, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and United States of America: revised draft resolution

United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 31/133 of 16 December 1976, in which it established the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, and the Beijing Platform for Action,[1] which reaffirmed that the Fund had the mandate to increase options and opportunities for women's economic and social development in developing countries,

Recalling also its resolution 39/125 of 14 December 1984, by which it decided to make the United Nations Development Fund for Women a separate and identifiable entity in autonomous association with the United Nations Development Programme,

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

[1] Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1996 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.1996.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Stressing the important contribution the Fund continues to make in providing technical assistance to enable Governments and organizations of the United Nations system as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to formulate and support policies and innovative activities that directly benefit and empower women,

Considering the innovative and experimental activities of the Fund directed towards strengthening both governmental and non-governmental institutional capacities to ensure for women access to development cooperation resources and full participation at all levels in the development process,

Taking note of the importance of the work of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women in policy and programme directions, in accordance with the mandate of the Fund,

1. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;[1]

2. Emphasizes the important work of the Fund in women's empowerment and gender equality within the framework of implementing the Beijing Platform for Action, and in that context notes the recently adopted strategy and business plan;

3. Reaffirms the catalytic role of the Fund in further developing and strengthening women's empowerment by enhancing the integration of a gender perspective into all development programmes, in accordance with its mandate;

4. Stresses the role of the Fund as a development fund in supporting activities related to women's economic and social development in developing countries;

5. Notes the intention of the Fund further to focus its interventions in support of women's empowerment and gender equality;

6. Encourages the Fund to continue to contribute to mainstreaming a gender perspective into all development efforts of Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and civil society;

7. Also encourages the Fund to strengthen its work within the United Nations system at the national level through the resident coordinator system, focusing on strategic interventions and building upon its comparative advantages, in order to promote systemic change, in particular with regard to women's political and economic empowerment;

8. Endorses the role of the Fund in strengthening women's economic capacity, encouraging women to become key economic players in combating the feminization of poverty and strengthening women's leadership and political empowerment in order to increase their participation in decision-making processes;

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[1] A/52/300, annex.

9. Recognizes the important role the Fund plays in promoting the realization of women's civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights so as to facilitate their full participation in society;

10. Welcomes the operationalization of the Trust Fund in Support of Action to Eliminate Violence Against Women, and requests the United Nations Development Fund for Women to disseminate information on best practices and strategic interventions funded under that initiative which should contribute to the eradication of violence against women as an obstacle to development;

11. Encourages the United Nations Development Fund for Women to continue to mobilize resources for its activities, in order to fulfil its mandate in a comprehensive manner from all available sources, including the private sector, and urges all Member States to contribute and to consider increasing their contributions to it;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session a report on activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women, to be submitted in accordance with resolution 39/125.